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REPORT OF CONFERENCE OF READERS OF THE SOVIET PERIODICAL
PROMYSHLENNAYA ENERGETIKA (INDUSTRIAL POWER ENGINEERING)

I. GOR'KIY CONFERENCE

Engr M. V. Panteleyev
Vice-Chairman
Gor'kiy Branch, VNITOE

A conference of readers of Promyshlennaya Energetika, organized by the editorial staff of the journal and the Gor'kiy Branch of VNITOE (All-Union Scientific and Technical Society of Power Engineers) was held in Gor'kiy on 30 June 1950. The conference was convoked to investigate demands of readers to improve the level of the journal and eliminate existing shortcomings.

Authors and readers of the journal, and technical engineering and scientific workers in enterprises and institutions in Gor'kiy took part in the conference. Gor'kiy power engineers displayed great interest in meeting the readers and editors. The content and subject matter of the journal had been previously discussed in enterprises and institutions.

Main Report

N. M. Chumakov, the assistant editor of the journal, presented a report on the activities of the editorial staff in 1949 and the first 6 months of 1950. He gave a brief history of the founding of the journal and pointed out that, in executing the main task of the journal - the organization of an exchange of operational experience in industrial enterprises on economizing electric and heat energy and standardizing power consumption - the editors had achieved several successes and improved the content of the journal in 1949 as compared with 1948, a fact also noted by reviewers.

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However, he said, the journal still had many serious defects. It had not yet become the tribune of industrial power engineers, clarifying the urgent and difficult problems of the power industry. It had not thrown much light on problems relating to the reliable operation and rapid installation of power equipment. The small size of the journal was a great obstacle in the way of correcting many shortcomings.

In conclusion, the speaker expressed the hope that, as a result of the criticisms and observations of the wide circle of engineers in Gor'kiy, the journal would learn how to correct the existing defects and that the active aid of power engineers would improve the level of its work.

Discussion

Many comrades participated in the discussion, some of whom are noted below

Engr B. V. Rozenberg, Energosbyt Gorenorgo, made the following points: Despite certain successes in the past 2 years, the journal still had many defects. Its small size was the reason that its articles were for the most part mere summaries, and this fact detracted from their practical usefulness. It did little to clarify problems relating to designing and assembling industrial power installations.

The information section was not badly presented but it should include systematic explanations of new specifications for installations. The journal should be for the masses, and its articles should be of a practical nature. It should also point out the achievements of domestic engineering in the field of industrial power engineering.

Engr M. V. Shubin, Zavodstroy, asked whether the journal ought not to be a guiding center for power engineers in industry to aid them in developing and utilizing new power techniques for production. He said the journal had never undertaken this task.

He commented further, as follows: The weak link between the journal and outsiders, especially Gor'kiy power engineers, was shown by the almost complete lack of articles by Gor'kiy authors in its pages. Yet there was a large automobile plant, as well as other enterprises in Gor'kiy. Their engineers should have an opportunity to express their opinion in the journal.

The journal should be accessible to large numbers of factory engineers, but, unfortunately, the majority did not read it. This situation should be corrected immediately.

Engr N. F. Pshenichnyy, Avtozavod imeni Molotov, felt that the subject matter of the journal was broader in recent years and more satisfactory to the reader, but called attention to various defects. He noted that the small size of the journal forced the editors to abridge articles, thereby decreasing the utility of the published material. He said that the Gor'kiy Automobile Plant had compiled valuable data on operating electric equipment which should have appeared in the journal.

He added that the editors should have a closer connection with the authors, demand current material from them, and arrange consultations between the reviewers and authors of articles.

Engr A. D. Akimenko, Krasnoye Sormovo Plant imeni A. A. Zhdanov, expressed the opinion of the factory workers that the subject matter of the journal gave adequate treatment to the practical problems of industrial power engineers. In general, he agreed with the criticism that the journal did not pay enough attention to problems connected with industrial thermal engineering with the exception of problems related to economy of thermal energy. He said that the same criticism might be made of the book Handbook for the Plant Power Engineer.

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praised the work of the reviewers, who helped authors improve the quality of their work.

The journal should, he added, contain more generalized material on the method of standardizing the consumption of electric power, with especial reference to the metal-working industry. It should be intended for wider dissemination and should provide clearer statements of the problems which perplex the plant power engineer.

P. I. Voyevodin, MONITOE, expressed his satisfaction with the meeting arranged between readers and editors of the journal; such interchanges of ideas permitted discussion of important problems which aided in improving the work of the journal. He recounted his many years of experience as an editor of scientific periodicals and suggested using the experience of *Elektrichestvo*, which held an authors' conference in Moscow, as a means of improving the work of the journal. He pointed out the necessity of stimulating editorial work by attracting new authors engaged in production work, organizing correspondence posts in enterprises and maintaining close connections with them. He hoped that the journal's editorial staff would keep in close touch with power engineering circles through branches of the VNIIE and felt sure that the journal would become an organizer and propagandist for new developments in industrial engineering.

Engr Yu. L. Mukoseyev, Gor'kiy Office of Glavielektromontazh, remarked that the journal paid a great deal of attention to economy of energy but very little to new, advanced techniques in power engineering. He said that discussion in the journal should be better organized, and that from this viewpoint Ye. N. Priklonskiy's article, published under the guise of discussion, was extremely unfortunate.

He felt that it was necessary to discuss the power factor and reactive power tariffs in the journal. Since the present scale of increases and deductions for the power factor did not encourage proper use of electric equipment, he felt that the journal should pay adequate attention to this problem.

Resolutions

The conference passed a number of resolutions on improving the work and broadening the subject matter of the journal, in particular:

1. In planning subject matter for 1950 and 1951, to include articles on electrical safety engineering in industrial enterprises; the training of power engineering cadres for industry; information on instructions and resolutions affecting industrial power engineering (for electricity and heat); Russian and Soviet priority in developing power engineering; short reports on methods of standardizing the consumption of electric power.
2. To stimulate discussion of the planned "Regulations on the Equipment of Electrotechnical Installations and Regulations on Industrial Boiler Installations."
3. To increase the number of reviews of publications on industrial power engineering.
4. To induce power engineers in neighboring industrial enterprises to take part in the work of the journal, to keep in continuous touch with them and to give authors practical assistance.
5. To organize correspondence posts in enterprises, to let them know in time the contents and authors of subsequent numbers of the journal.

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In view of the fact that the small size of the journal frequently forces the editors to abridge articles thereby decreasing their value, the conference recommended an increase in size to 4-5 quartos and an increase in number of copies to 15,000.

II. KIEV CONFERENCE

[Article signed by] A. M.

A conference of readers of the journal Promyshlennaya Energetika organized by the Kiev Branch of VNITOE, Energosbyt of Kiyevenergo, and the editorial staff of the journal, was held 8 September 1950 in Kiev.

Prior to the conference a great deal of preparatory work was done by the Kiev Branch of VNITOE and by Kiyevenergo. In various industrial enterprises in Kiev, special discussions were held on the problems before the journal, and consultations were organized on material published in it and on a plan for its subject matter in 1950. A correspondence post was also organized. In addition, 125 persons, most of whom are engaged in power-economy problems in industrial enterprises, subscribed to the journal.

Before the opening of the conference, a special printed bulletin about the journal was issued which contained 22 articles criticizing its defects, supplementing the plan for subject matter and making suggestions for improvements.

A total of 153 persons took part in the work of the conference. Data on the composition of the participants are interesting. Of the total number, 111 were workers in industrial enterprises, 12 in institutes and scientific research organizations, seven in design and installation organizations and 23 in power systems. Of all those directly concerned with industrial enterprises, 39 were chief power engineers in factories and plants, 14 were heads of electrical shops, ten were workers in power bureaus and plant laboratories, and 11 were chief engineers and mechanics in enterprises. Thus, the majority at the conference was composed of representatives of the main groups of readers for whom the journal is intended.

A report on the activities of the journal during 1949 and the first 8 months of 1950 was made by A. A. Maksimov, the editor. He gave a detailed account of the journal's problems and its plan for subject matter of future issues, and reviewed material which had been published during the period under discussion. He made public the resolutions of the staff of the Ministry of Electric Power Stations with regard to the work of the journal and gave various excerpts from the conclusions of the reviewers who examined its 1949 work and from resolutions of the readers' conferences at Leningrad and Gor'kiy. He noted the following defects of the journal: insufficient information on problems relating to design, installation and operation of industrial power equipment, quality of power equipment manufactured by plants, and advanced methods of making rapid repairs on such equipment; lack of attention in the information section to current problems in industrial power engineering; insufficient interest in solving problems related to engineering studies and the training of cadres of power engineers, etc.

The speaker also cited data showing that the participation of industrial power engineers in Kiev was extremely unsatisfactory.

Fifteen persons took part in the discussion which followed. Engr Levy, Chief Power Engineer of the "Bol'shevik" Plant, called attention to the great interest in the journal shown by power engineers in industrial enterprises and

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said that it was an active aid to power engineers in plants. He added that, at the same time, it suffered from a number of defects. Problems relating to overhauling factory and plant equipment, safety engineering, and advance installation methods were poorly presented, he felt. He added that space limitation was an obstacle to successful editorial work. For example, to assemble in book form the 57 sheets of the Handbook of Plant Power Engineering, which had been appearing in serial form on the back of the journal, and which was very valuable to plant workers, he said that it would be necessary to remove the back covers of the journal, and that it would have been better to print the handbook on separate sheets.

The speaker added that because of the small size of the journal it was printed in brevier /8-point type/ and some articles were so abbreviated that their value was lost. Nevertheless, he continued, readers had confidence in the journal and used its material in practical work. He felt that the number of subscribers would certainly grow as soon as the editors adopted the suggestions made to them. He also said that to keep in touch with its readers the journal should have a section called "Correspondence with Readers" or Questions and Answers."

Chief Engineer Kochergin of "Mel'zavod" No 3 said that the material appearing in the sections "At the Manufacturing Plants" and "Consultations" was very valuable for power engineers in their daily work. However, he went on, such material appeared only irregularly and too infrequently. Unfortunately, he added, almost nothing appeared on power engineering in alimentary enterprises, especially in the milling industry which was a great consumer of electric energy. He wished that the journal would include the less important as well as the chief branches of industry, and said that if this were done, the journal would be more popular and more useful to wide circles of power engineers in all branches of industry.

Engi Mokhov, Assistant Chief, Electrical Economy, "Mostootryad", stated that the journal, intended for specialists in power economy in industrial enterprises and constructions, was distinguished by its simple style and excellent content, and was a great aid to industrial power engineers. But, he said, the journal printed little material for power engineers engaged in construction work. "In particular", he said, the journal does not help us solve the problem of establishing norms for specific power consumption in energy-consuming work." There was always an increase in the demand for power equipment, he continued, with the increase in mechanization, hydromechanization and automatization. Since, he added, problems were constantly arising which were hard to solve, he and other power engineers engaged in construction work had the right to demand the attention of the journal to these problems and to ask for its active aid.

Chief Plant Power Engineer Pecherskiy, while praising the journal for its great and useful work both in the exchange of experiences it printed on power economy and in popularizing new engineering techniques, felt that the journal paid little attention to problems relating to advanced maintenance methods for power equipment, to increasing the life of equipment and decreasing maintenance costs, to problems concerned with the use of steam power and air, and to such technical problems as converting boiler installations to burn gas fuels.

Engr Repeychuk, Chief of the Electrical Shop of the "First Shoe Factory," felt that the journal had helped him effect power economies in running the factory, but believed it essential to enlarge the section "Handbook of Plant Power Engineers." Specifically, he said that data were lacking on induction motor windings which would be very useful for production workers. He felt that in articles on "Exchange of Operating Experiences" and in concrete proposals devoted to power economy, more illustrations and outlines with dimensions should be given to assist in constructing parts according to the text. He added that

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the periodical Elektromontazh should resume publication; if this is not possible then Promyshlennaya Energetika should be enlarged to include a section called "Assisting the Electrical Equipment Installer," with subject matter like that of the former periodical Elektromontazh.

Chief Engineer Pletnik, Kiev Office of Yuzhelektromontazh, criticized the editors for their very inadequate data on problems in designing and installing electrical equipment; in particular, problems connected with the government decree on reducing construction costs. He said that the journal should have organized a full debate on the method of determining demand factors and correct selection of calculated loads in planning the supply of electricity to industrial enterprises.

Professor Orlovskiy, Chairman of KOMITOE (Kiev Branch of VNIITOE), spoke on the necessity of settling the question of subject matter in power engineering journals and of changes in the number of copies and size of the journals in order to satisfy the daily demands of the great army of power engineers and workers in industry.

The over-all volume of power engineering journals, he said, was not evenly divided. He pointed out that Elektricheskiye Stantsii was wholly concerned with the production of electric power, to which Elektrichestvo also devoted part of its space, and that Gidrotekhnicheskoye Stroitel'stvo dealt with the construction of hydroelectric power stations, while Vestnik Elektropromyshlennosti published data on electrotechnical equipment. But in the field of electric and thermal power consumption and economical operational methods in the major industrial enterprises, he said that only one small journal, Promyshlennaya Energetika, was being published, which certainly could not answer all the questions constantly laid before it by the power industries. He felt at least three or four journals were needed, but until the problem was radically solved, Promyshlennaya Energetika must certainly be enlarged. He asked the editors to transmit his request to the above journals and grant the wish of the participants in the conference.

Among those who took part in the discussions were: Engr Chubuk, Chief Power Engineer of "Promstroydetal'" Plant; Engr Bezrodnyy, Senior Instructor, Kiev Polytechnic Institute; Engr Solenyy, Electrical Engineer of "Krasnyy Ekskavator" Plant; Engr Gavril'yuk, Giprokhimostro; Engr Shkabara, Scientific Associate of an Institute; Engr Golovina, plant power engineer, Engr Lushnikov, plant power engineer; and Engr Shchuchiner, Director Energosbyt, Kiovenergo.

On the basis of previous conference discussions by power engineers and participants in readers conferences, a resolution was passed with a view to eliminating defects and making further improvements in the work of the journal.

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